

“What can I as an individual do to help
protect stormwater quality?”



Kriste J. Lindberg

City of Bloomington Utilities

Stormwater



Drainage: From rain to drain...

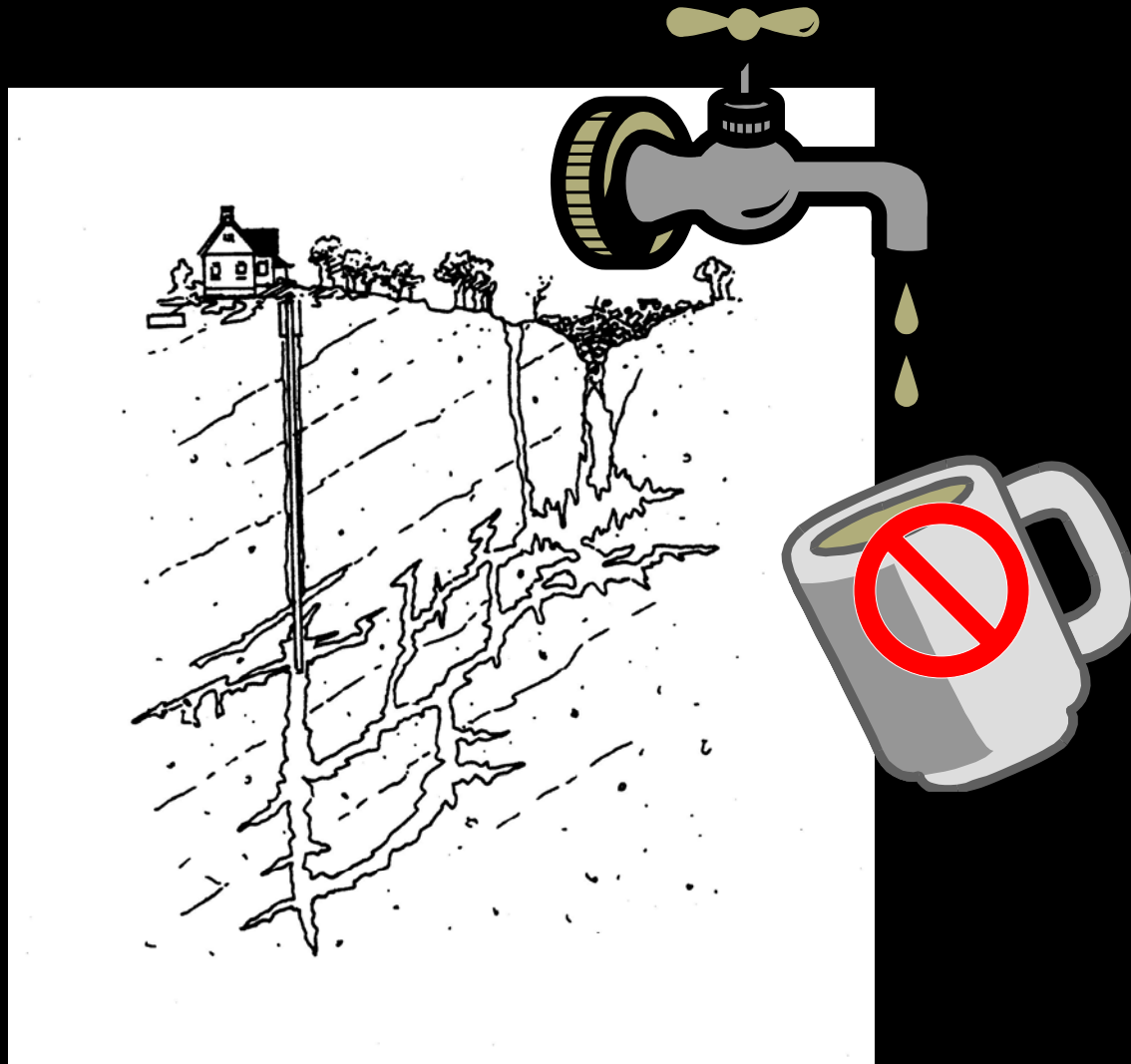


storm drain
(man-made)



sinkhole
(natural)

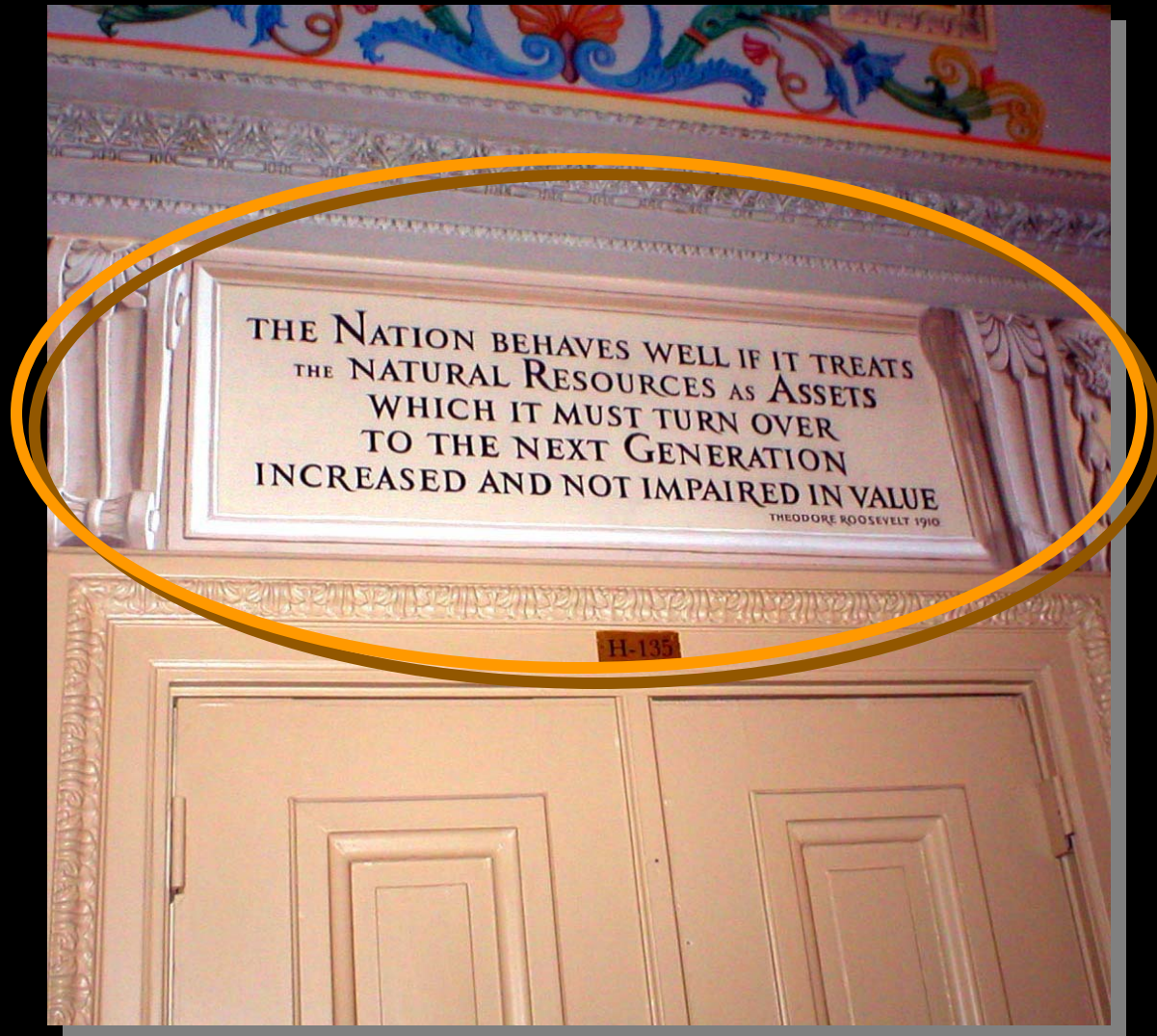
... to water supply.



In action...



Everyone!



What can I as an individual do?



City of Bloomington Citizen Scientist Projects and Certification



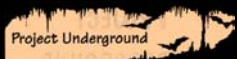
Storm Drain Marking Program



Hoosier Riverwatch



Adopt-A-Trail



Project Underground

Can “mix and match”

**Citizen Scientist
Certification**

is available!

Storm Drain Marking Program



Storm Drain Marking Program

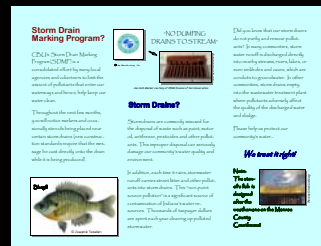
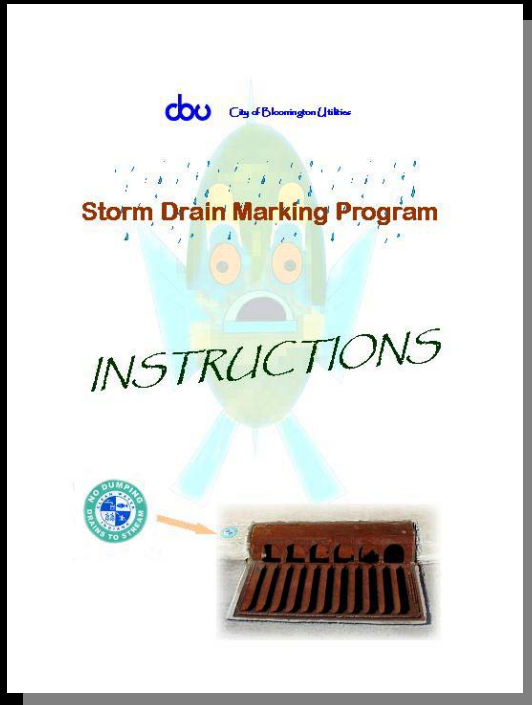


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Storm Drain Marking Program

Instructional booklet and supplies



Storm Drain Marking Program Poster



City of Bloomington Utilities

Storm Drain Marking Program

The Storm Drain Marking Program is a consolidated effort by various agencies and volunteers to help keep our water clean by limiting the amount of pollutants that enter waterways within our local watersheds.

Storm drains are commonly misused for disposal of wastes such as paint, motor oil, anti-freeze, pesticides, yard and pet waste, and other pollutants. This improper disposal can seriously damage our community's water quality and environment.

Throughout the next few months, you will notice markers being placed on or near storm drains that carry the message:

NO DUMPING – DRAINS TO STREAM

Please help us protect our community's water...

We treat it right!



For more information on **CBU's** Storm Drain Marking Program and for volunteer opportunities (including a free t-shirt), please visit the following website:



bloomington.in.gov/utilities

Storm Drain Marking Program

Certificate of Appreciation



 CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION 

Awarded to,

Your name here!

in recognition of valuable contributions to the
City of Bloomington Utilities'

 **Storm Drain Marking Program** 

Placing curb markers at the following neighborhoods:

Kriste Lindberg Date
Storm Drain Marking Program Coordinator

 www.bloomington.in.gov/utilities 

Storm Drain Marking Program Education and Outreach!



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**From
Rain
to
Drain**

**Saturday,
March 30**

**Special
Activities:
11 a.m. - 2 p.m.**

**Find out how water
moves underground!**

**Guest Scientist:
Kriste Lindberg,
Indiana Karst
Conservancy**

W. NIGERL 48
www.wonderlab.org
812-337-1337

8 Dinner



Storm Drain Marking Program Education and Outreach



Spreading clean water message

By Steve Hinnfeld
H-T Staff Writer

Fifteen-year-old Nathan Higgins looked around to make sure the coast was clear, then spray-painted a message on a city street in Bloomington's Elm Heights neighborhood.

Before moving on, he took a moment to admire his work.

"Dump no waste," the neatly stenciled message said. "Drains to stream."

Nathan and his Harmony School classmates aren't making graffiti. They're taking part in a clean-water project to prevent pollution of city storm sewers.

The storm-drain marking program brings together state and local agencies and volunteers such as the students at Harmony.

A pilot project that will eventually be expanded in Bloomington and around the state, it will help communities comply with federal Clean Water Act rules that take effect next year.

"Really, the city of Bloomington is ahead of the curve on the new regulations," said Sharon Hall, stormwater specialist with the Indiana Department of Natural Resources. "They've already initiated this program."

The suggestion came from Mike Jarwin, a federal wildlife biologist and city environmental commission member, who had heard of communities stenciling warnings on their storm drains.

The idea, officials say, is that people sometimes dump harmful waste — including used motor oil and toxic antifreeze — into storm drains, not realizing the waste will reach streams and rivers.

Bloomington's underground storm sewers flow untreated to Clear, Jackson, Scouts and Bean Blossom creeks.

"The philosophy is not to get after people but to work with them and to be as positive as possible," said Kriste Lindberg, who helps run the program for the city parks department and the Monroe County Soil and Water Conservation District.

City utilities staff last year tried out a few of the stencils, which feature a 15-inch-long silhouette of a fish.

This spring, the project became a pilot program using Harmony teacher David Christman's class, which in the past had worked with state agencies to monitor water quality in area streams.

One afternoon a week, students have walked through the Elm Heights area surrounding the school, sweeping debris away from storm sewer inlets and spray-painting the stenciled warning.

On Thursday, Rachel Wedig, 13, pulled a red wagon loaded with reflector-orange traffic cones, whisk brooms and cans of spray paint. Justin Fuller, also 13, kept track of their progress on a neighborhood map.

At each drain, Nathan would align the stencil, duct-tape it to the street or sidewalk and cut loose with blue paint. Other students, meanwhile, went door to door in the neighborhood, leaving leaflets that explain the project.

Rachel said the project was her first choice among community-service options at the school. "It's getting to go out and do something that will make a difference, that people will see and notice and wonder



Nathan Higgins paints the pavement next to a storm drain on East Second Street, creating a sign that reads "dump no waste ... drains to stream." Several students from Harmony School are involved in the project to help protect local creeks. STAFF PHOTO BY DAVID SHODGRESS

about," she said. "I especially like the spray painting," she added.

The Harmony class has one more Thursday to do the project. Then the sponsoring agencies will be looking for neighborhood associations, civic clubs and youth groups to carry the project to

additional parts of the city.

Groups that want to take part can contact Lindberg at 349-2046 or Steve Glasgow of the city utilities department at 349-3830.

Reporter Steve Hinnfeld can be reached at 321-4374 or by e-mail at hinnfeld@herald.com.



Storm Drain Marking Program



The Mars rover Opportunity discovers signs of intelligent life...

Storm Drain Marking Program



Marking Projects in Progress

- Barrington Place
- Briar Gate
- Coppertree
- Hearthstone Village
- The Gables at Brighton Point
- Near West Neighborhood
- Prospect Hill
- Ridgefield Village
- Rosewood at Hyde Park
- St. Remy
- Silver Creek Village
- Sycamore Village
- The Villa Glen at Brighton Point
- The Villas at Brighton Point
- Windermere Woods

Completed Marking Projects

- Bayberry
- City Hall area
- Elmwood Heights
- Moss Creek
- Moss Creek Village
- Tamarron
- University Elementary School area
- Winslow Farms
- Woodlands
- WonderLab area

Storm Drain Marking Program

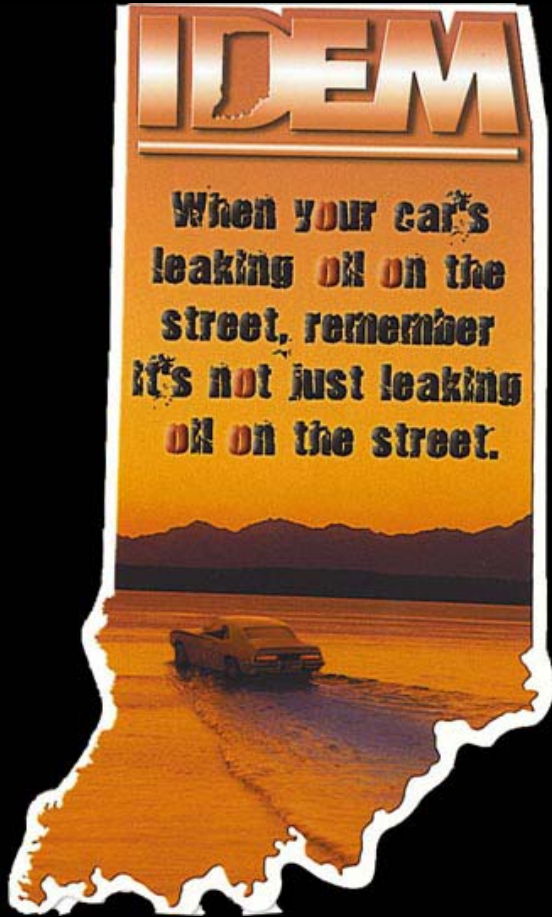


What can I do to help?

It's simple! Dump nothing down the storm drain you wouldn't swim in or drink.

- Use less fertilizer on lawns
- Avoid pesticides
- Compost
- Recycle used motor oil
- Wash your car on the lawn not in the driveway or street
- Pick up pet wastes
- Don't litter!
- Contact the Monroe County Solid Waste Management District to find out how to properly dispose of leftover paints, pesticides, etc.
- **VOLUNTEER** to help mark storm drains... and get a t-shirt free!

Materials and more information...



Environmental Protection Agency

www.epa.gov

**Indiana Department of Environmental
Management**

www.in.gov/idem

Monroe County

www.co.monroe.in.us/stormwaterquality

City of Bloomington

www.bloomington.in.gov

Volunteer!



Contact:



Kriste J. Lindberg

City of Bloomington Utilities

lindberk@bloomington.in.gov

www.bloomington.in.gov/utilities

Special thanks to...

City of Bloomington

Environmental Protection Agency

Hoosier Riverwatch

Indiana Department of Environmental Management

Indiana Department of Natural Resources

Indiana Karst Conservancy

Indiana University

Monroe County

Project Underground

WonderLab